

AMENDMENTS TO CLAIMS

Applicant has provided a listing of the claims for Examiner's reference. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A drill bit for drilling a borehole in an object, the drill bit having a central longitudinal axis and comprising a bit body provided with a central shank for connecting the drill bit to a drilling system, the drill bit further comprising at least one cutting arm, each cutting arm being provided with a set of cutters for cutting the object and being coupled to the bit body via pivot means allowing the cutting arm to pivot between a radially retracted position and a radially expanded position, the drill bit being provided with support means for supporting the at least one cutting arm in the radially expanded position thereof, wherein the support means is arranged to transmit at least a portion of the rotational torque generated during drilling from the at least one cutting arm to the bit body so as to reduce or prevent transmission of said rotational torque via the pivot means, and wherein the support means is arranged to transmit axial loads from the cutting arm to the bit body when the at least one cutting arm is in the radially expanded position, wherein said axial loads are transmitted from the at least one cutting arm to the bit body by an axial end surface of the bit body.
2. (Currently Amended) The drill bit of claim 1, wherein the support means is further arranged to transmit an axial compressive load from the at least one cutting arm to the bit body.
3. (Currently Amended) The drill bit of claim 1, wherein the support means is further arranged to support a radial compressive load from the at least one cutting arm to the bit body.

4. (Currently Amended) The drill bit of claim 1, wherein the support means is arranged to transmit a majority of the rotational torque, preferably essentially the full rotational torque, from the at least one cutting arm to the bit body.
5. (Cancelled)
6. (Currently Amended) The drill bit of claim 1, further comprising a pilot section provided with pilot cutters arranged for pre-cutting a pilot borehole ahead of the at least one cutting arm.
7. (Currently Amended) The drill bit of claim 6, wherein the pilot section is axially movable with respect to the shank whereby the at least one cutting arm is coupled to the pilot section for controlling the pivoting of the at least one cutting arm.
8. (Original) The drill bit of claim 7, wherein the pilot section is coupled to a hydraulic system for controlling said axial movability.
9. (Previously Presented) The drill bit of claim 1 wherein the drill bit is a drill bit for drilling a borehole in an earth formation.